

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 00222 111010Z

12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 COA-01 DLOS-03

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-02 H-01 /045 W

----- 105751

R 110947Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2633

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT PFOR SO US

SUBJECT: REGISTRATION OF SOMALI SHIPS

1. SECRETARY FOR FISHERIES AND MARINE TRANSPORT
TOLD ME FEB. 11 THAT GSDR WAS CANCELLING ITS CON-
TRACT WITH SODERI (SOCIETE POUR LE DEVELOPMENT
DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES), WHICH IS "EXCLUSIVE
AGENT" FOR REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN SHIPS UNDER SOMALI
FLAG. GSDR HAD TEN YEAR CONTRACT WITH SODERI AND
THIS CONTRACT HAD ONE MORE YEAR TO RUN. HOWEVER,
SODERI HAD VIOLATED VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF CONTRACT
(SUCH AS PROVISION THAT NO RPT NO SHIPS OVER THIRTY
YEARS OLD BE REGISTERED UNDER SOMALI FLAG) AND THIS
GAVE GSDR LEGAL JUTIFICATION FOR EARLY CANCELLATION.
HE STATED GSDR HAD ONLY RECEIVED TWO TO THREE MILLION
SHILLINGS (APPROXIMATELY 300 THOUSAND TO 500 THOUSAND
DOLLARS) INCOME ANNUALLY FROM THE REGISTRATION ARRANGEMENT.

2. SECRETARY SAID GSDR REACHED THIS DECISION SHORTLY
AFTER PRESIDENT SIAD'S RETURN FROM US, THAT PRELIMINARY
NOTIFICATION HAD BEEN SENT TO SODERI AND SOMALI EMBASSIES
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PAGE 02 MOGADI 00222 111010Z

ABROAD, AND THAT HE EXPECTED FORMAL DATE OF TERMINATION

WOULD BE MARCH 1.

3. COMMENT: SECRETARY'S COMMENTS CLEARLY IMPLIED
THAT SOMALIA WOULD BE ELIMINATED FROM RANKS OF "FLAGS
OF CONVENIENCE" STATES. WE CAN ONLY ASSUME FROM HIS
REMARKS THAT PRC-OWNED VESSELS WERE REGISTERED UNDER
SOMALI FLAG THROUGH SODERI, WHICH SECRETARY TERMED
"EXCLUSIVE AGENT" FOR SUCH ACTIVITY.
KIRK

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006